

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00  
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FM USMISSION GENEVA  
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S E C R E T GENEVA 5670

EXDIS USSALT TWO

EO 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PARM  
SUBJECT: EARLE-JOHNSON LUNCH WITH SEMENOV AND SHCHUKIN, JULY 11,  
1977(SALT TWO-1275)

1. IN THE COURSE OF WHAT WAS BILLED AS A NON-SUBSTANTIVE LUNCH,  
THE FOLLOWING POINTS OF INTERESTS EMERGED:

A. SEMENOV VOLUNTEERED THAT THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE  
US AND USSR WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT IN VARIOUS OTHER  
FORA AND IT WAS THEREFORE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT  
COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN HIM AND ME SHOULD CONTINUE AS THEY HAD  
IN THE PAST. WHEN I COMMENTED THAT I THOUGHT THE SALT DELEGATIONS  
HAD AN EXCELLENT RECORD OF STICKING TO THEIR BUSINESS AND NOT  
BEING AFFECTED BY OTHER EVENTS, HE AGREED BUT SAID THAT EVEN OUR  
DIALOGUE COULD EASILY BE BROKEN AND ONCE BROKEN WOULD BE VERY  
DIFFICULT TO RENEW.

B. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH SHCHUKIN ON THE  
SUBJECT OF DERAZHNYA AND PERVOMAYSK, SHCHUKIN VOLUNTEERED  
THAT HE WAS "EXTREMELY FAMILIER" WITH THE SITUATION AT THOSE  
SITES AND THAT HE COULD ASSURE ME THAT THE ANTENNAS WHICH I  
HAD MENTIONED TO SEMONOV JULY 8 DID NOT CONSTITUTE THE BASIS  
FOR DISTINCTION BETWEEN MIRV AND NON-MIRV LAUNCHERS. HE

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ADDED THAT THE DISTINCTION SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE BY US NTM  
DURING THE "CONSTRUCTION PHASE", CONCEDING THAT PERHAPS FOG  
OR OTHER NATURAL PHENOMENA MIGHT HAVE PREVENTED SUFFICIENT  
OBSERVATION. IN THE CONTEXT OF A SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THE  
RUSSIAN WORD "TROIKA", SHCHUKIN SAID THAT THE U.S. HAD  
ESTABLISHED THAT THERE WAS A "TROIKA" (TRIO) OF LAUNCHER  
GROUPS AT DNP, IMPLYING THAT THEY COULD BE DISCUSSED AS

SUCH. WHEN I TOLD HIM THAT, GIVEN HIS EARLIER STATEMENT REGARDING HOW TO DISTINCTION AMONG THE GROUPS SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE SOVIET SIDE WERE T TELL US WHICH OF THE TRIO WERE LAUNCHERS OF MIRVED MISSILES, SHCHUKIN SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD AND WOULD CONSIDER THE QUESTION.

C. SEMENOV VOLUNTEERED THAT U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO LISTEN T SOVIET STATEMENTS VERY CAREFULLY INASMUCH AS MOST OF WHAT WAS SAID WAS TOTALLY UNIMPORTANT, ADDING THT THE IMPORTANT POINTS WERE WELL HIDDEN BUT SUSCEPTIBLE TO DISCOVERY.

D. SEMENOV RAISED THE SUBJECT OF TELEMETRY, COMMENTING THAT IT WAS ONE OF THE LESS IMPORTANT ISSUES AND THAT IT DESERVED LESS ATTENTION THAN IT WAS BEING GIVEN. I WHEN I DEMURRED, HE ONCE AGAIN ASSERTED THAT IT WAS THE US DELEGATION THAT HAD RAISED THE SUBJECT. HE THEN DREW TWO SLIGHTLY INTERSECTING ARCS, REPRESENTING THE TELEMETRY OF EACH SIDE, NOTING THAT THERE WAS A SMALL OVERLAP AND THAT IT WAS ONLY THIS SMALL OVERLAP WHICH REPRESENTED TELEMETRY RELEVANT TO VERIFICATION OF THE NEW AGREEMENT; HE ADDED THAT THE REMAINING AREAS CONTAINED IN THE ARCS HAD NOTHER TO DO WITH THE NEW AGREEMENT AND THEREFORE SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED. HE ADDED THAT AT NO TIME HAD THE SOVIETS ATTEMPTED TO "INTERFRE" WITH U.S. USE OF TELEMETRY AND THAT ACCORDINGLY IT WAS INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE U.S. TO ATTEMPT TO  
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IMPINGE UPON SOVIET TELEMETRY. IN THIS CONTEXT HE NOTED THAT THE U.S. HAD ALREADY CONDUCTED CONSIDERABLE TESTING " IN THIS AREA" AND THAT THE SOVIET UNION WAS ONLY ABOUT TO CARRY OUT SUCH A TESTING PROGRAM AND HAD EVERY INTENTION OF DOING IT. I POINTED OUT THAT, ALTHOUGH THE OVERLAP IN THE ARCS WAS PROBABLY SMALLER THAN APPROPRIATE, IT SEEMED THAT HE HAD CONCEDED THE US ARGUMENT THAT TELEMETRY WAS OR COULD BE AN ELEMENT IN THE VERIFICATION PROCESS AND THEREFORE SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE PROHIBITION OF DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT MEASURES JUST LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE INVOLVED IN THE TESTING PHASE. AFTER A REFERENCE TO PARA XVI.2 (INTERFERENCE WITH NTM) IN THE CONTEXT OF TELEMETRY, WHICH RESULTED IN AN INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION OF ITS RELEVANCE, SEMENOV VOLUNTEERED THAT WE SHOULD RETURN TO THE SUBJECT OF TELEMETRY LATER.

E. IN A CONVERSATION WITH JOHNSON, SEMENOV COMMENTED THAT IT APPEARED TO HIM THAT, BASED ON RECENT PLENARY STATEMENTS, THE U.S. DELEGTION HAD EXHAUSTED ITS INSTRUCTIONS. EARLE

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## Message Attributes

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